



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

ter of interior and foreign affairs, 1837-1839; suppressed the insurrection of Pasto, 1840; was president of New Granada, 1841-1845; was three times minister to the United States, 1847-1849, 1855-1859, and 1861; and was on various occasions commander-in-chief, senator, and deputy. His career thus extended through all five stages of Colombian history, from the war of independence to the organization of the United States of Colombia in 1863. The present biography, constructed from the sources, gives a clear account of his life and of the principal events in which he figured, and is notably free from exaggerations and declamation. Nearly one-half the volume is devoted to *pièces justificatives*.

The fourth volume deals with the revolt of the Comuneros in 1781, which together with the insurrection of Tupac Amaru in Peru in the same year, marks the first assertion on the part of the creoles of their political rights, and was the forerunner of the revolution for independence. The first half of the volume consists of an inedited narrative of rare interest written in the year 1783 by the capuchin Joaquín de Finestrada; the second piece is an account, with documents, of the career of José Antonio Galán (1749-1782), one of the leaders of the revolt, by the late Colombian historian, Señor Angel M. Galán; the third is a history of the events in the commune of Zipaquirá based on original materials; the rest of the volume (pp. 363-449) contains a number of original documents. The introduction to the volume is excellent. The contents of the four volumes which have been briefly recited attest the exceptional interest of the series as a whole, and Señores Posada and Ibáñez have proved themselves not only judicious editors but competent historians as well.

LUIS M. PÉREZ.

The First Forty Years of Washington Society. Edited by GAILLARD HUNT. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1906. Pp. xii, 424.)

MR. HUNT has made an interesting selection from the correspondence of Margaret Bayard Smith, the wife of Samuel Harrison Smith of Philadelphia, who came to Washington, D. C., in 1800 and established the *National Intelligencer*. Mr. Smith was appointed by Madison in 1813 the first Commissioner of the Treasury Department and was from 1809 to 1819 President of the Bank of Washington and later President of the Branch Bank of the United States. The letters in this volume, with a few exceptions, were written by Mrs. Smith to members of her family, and cover the period from shortly after her arrival in Washington, in the latter part of 1800, to within a few years of her death, which occurred in January, 1844. Mrs. Smith wrote freely of persons and events, and during her more than forty years of residence in Washington she had unusual opportunities of becoming intimately acquainted with many of those most prominent in social life.

These letters illustrate forcibly that for the first thirty years there was but one social circle in Washington, and that dominated by those in political life. The Capitol was the meeting-place for society people.

Mrs. Smith mentions (p. 94) that "The house of representatives is the lounging place of both sexes" and refers to "the female crowd who throng the [Supreme] court room" (p. 96). During the celebrated debate between Webster and Hayne, Mrs. Smith writes that "the Senators were obliged to relinquish their chairs of State to the fair auditors" and that "there were 300 ladies besides their attendant beaux on the floor of the Senate". The stand taken against Mrs. Eaton, and Jackson's failure to secure the desired social recognition for her, are referred to and show clearly the strength of a single and united society; but the contest began the breach which destroyed this unity, for since that time there has gradually developed a number of social circles such as the Ultra Fashionable, Diplomatic, Army and Navy, Political, Old Resident, etc., which, although overlapping to some extent, are separate and distinct.

Mrs. Smith describes with particularity the social life of the city, the entertainments and the varieties of refreshments served, and many of her intimate friends, which places the reader in the social atmosphere of the time. An interesting account is given of Mrs. Madison and the first inaugural ball, also glimpses into the family life of the Wirts, Clays, Calhouns, Crawfords, and others. Among the foreigners described are Mrs. Merry, who rebelled against Jefferson's "pell mell" order, and Harriet Martineau. The account of the latter and the dinner given to her by Mrs. Smith is one of the features of the book.

These letters are especially interesting to the student of American history for the descriptions of Jefferson and Madison. Although Mrs. Smith's father, Colonel John Bayard, was a Federalist and prior to meeting Jefferson she had believed him "an ambitious and violent demagogue, coarse and vulgar in his manners, awkward and rude in his appearance" (p. 6), she became an ardent admirer of him and later an intimate friend. A letter from Jefferson to her stating his religious views is included in the volume. Mrs. Smith visited both Montpelier and Monticello and gives a detailed and entertaining account of the home life at these places.

Mrs. Smith's description of the destruction of Washington by the British, although graphic, is not that of an eye-witness. She left the city on the approach of the enemy, but returned immediately after they had retired, and gives a vivid picture of the ruined buildings and the gloom and depression of the citizens. The well-known story that Mrs. Madison, on leaving the White House, cut the Stuart portrait of Washington from the frame to save it from destruction by the British is shown to be without foundation, as Mrs. Smith writes that Mrs. Madison told her she found the picture in the possession of some men in Georgetown, when retreating with the "flying army".

The book is attractively gotten up and has a number of illustrations of the prominent people and places mentioned in the letters. The editor has furnished a satisfactory index and the notes necessary to explain the text.

MONTGOMERY BLAIR.